Claims

- A reagent for predicting a phospholipidosis induction potential of a compound, which comprises a nucleic acid capable of hybridizing to a nucleic acid having a base sequence shown by any of SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21 and 23 under high stringent conditions and/or a nucleic acid capable of hybridizing to a nucleic acid having a base sequence complementary to the base sequence under high stringent conditions.
- 2. A kit for predicting a phospholipidosis induction potential of a compound, which comprises one or more reagents containing a nucleic acid capable of hybridizing to a transcription product of a gene showing varying expression in correlation with expression of phospholipidosis under high stringent conditions and/or a nucleic acid capable of hybridizing to a nucleic acid having a base sequence complementary to the transcription product under high stringent conditions, wherein, when two or more reagents are contained, each reagent can detect expression of different genes.
- 3. The kit of claim 2, wherein at least one reagent comprises a nucleic acid capable of hybridizing to a nucleic acid having a base sequence shown by any of SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21 and 23 under high stringent conditions and/or a nucleic acid capable of hybridizing to a nucleic acid having a base sequence complementary to the base sequence under high stringent conditions.

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4. The kit of claim 2, wherein a prediction hitting ratio of the phospholipidosis induction potential is not less than about 70% when a mammalian cell is exposed to a test compound, using an average variation rate of expression of a nucleic acid, to which the nucleic acid contained in each reagent is capable of hybridizing, in said cell as an index.

- 5. A method for predicting a phospholipidosis induction potential of a compound, which comprises detecting expression variation of one or more genes showing expression variation in correlation with phospholipidosis expression, in a sample containing a mammalian cell exposed to the compound or a sample taken from a mammal administered with the compound.
- 6. The method of claim 5, wherein at least one gene has the same or substantially the same base sequence as the base sequence shown by any of SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21 and 23.
- 7. A method for determining the standard for the judgment of the presence or absence of a phospholipidosis induction potential of a compound, which comprises
 - (1) detecting expression variation of one or more genes showing expression variation in correlation with phospholipidosis
- expression, in samples containing a mammalian cell exposed to each of two or more known phospholipidosis-inducing compounds and two or more known phospholipidosis non-inducing compounds or samples taken from mammals administered with each of said compounds, and
- (2) using, as a standard value, an average variation rate capable of correctly judging the presence or absence of a phospholipidosis induction potential of the above-mentioned compounds by not less than about 70% based on the relationship between an average expression variation rate of the genes and the phospholipidosis induction potential.
 - 8. The method of claim 7, wherein at least one gene has the same or substantially the same base sequence as the base sequence shown by any of SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15,
- ³⁵ 17, 19, 21 and 23.

- 9. The method of claim 7, further comprising examining validity of the standard value using other known phospholipidosis inducing compound and known phospholipidosis non-inducing
 5 compound.
 - 10. The method of claim 5, comprising comparing the average variation rate of gene expression with the standard value obtained by the method of claim 7 or 9.

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- 11. A method for predicting the toxicity of a compound, which comprises,
- (1) detecting expression variation of one or more genes showing expression variation in correlation with toxicity expression,
- in a sample containing a mammalian cell exposed to the compound or a sample taken from a mammal administered with the compound, and
- (2) judging the presence or absence of toxicity of the compound with an average variation rate of the gene expression as an
 20 index.